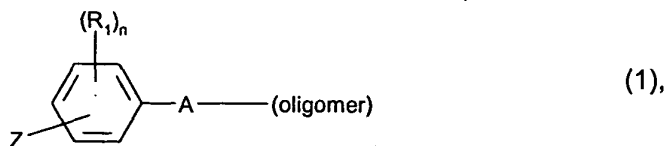


## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend claims 1 and 6 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula



wherein  $R_1$  is an electron-withdrawing substituent and  $n$  is an integer from 0 to 2,  
 $Z$  is a group which functions as a triggerable precursor for carbene or nitrene formation,  
 $A$  is a radical of formula

-C(O)-X- (2a) or

-X-C(O)- (2b); or

-X<sub>1</sub>-C(O)-X- (2c); or

-X<sub>1</sub>-C(S)-X- (2d); or

-A<sub>1</sub>-C(O)-X- (2e); or

-X<sub>1</sub>-C(O)-NH-R-NH-C(O)-X- (2f); or

-X<sub>1</sub>-C(O)-R-C(O)-X- (2g);

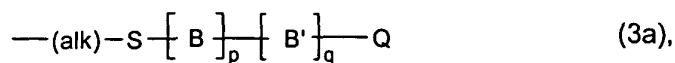
$X$  and  $X_1$  are each independently of the other a group -O- or -NR<sub>2</sub>-, wherein  $R_2$  is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl;

$A_1$  is C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkyl which may be interrupted by -O-;

$R$  is linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkylene or unsubstituted or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl- or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy-substituted C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-arylene, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-aralkylene, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-arylene-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-alkylene-C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-arylene, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkylene, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkylene-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylene, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkylene-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-alkylene-C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkylene or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylene-C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkylene-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylene; and

(oligomer) is

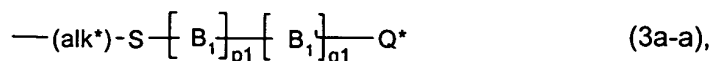
(i) the radical of a telomer of formula



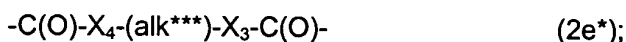
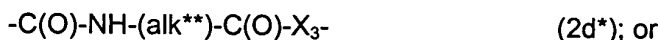
wherein (alk) is C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkylene,

$Q$  is a monovalent group that is suitable to act as a polymerization chain-reaction terminator,

p and q are each independently of another an integer from 0 to 750, wherein the total of (p+q) is an integer from 2 to 750,  
and B and B' are each independently of the other a 1,2-ethylene radical derivable from a copolymerizable vinyl monomer by replacing the vinylic double bond by a single bond, at least one of the radicals B and B' being substituted by a hydrophilic substituent; or  
(i-i) the radical of a telomer of formula



wherein (alk<sup>\*</sup>) Q<sup>\*</sup>, p1 and q1 each independently have the meaning of (alk), Q, p and q, B<sub>1</sub> is a 1,2-ethylene radical derivable from a copolymerizable vinyl monomer by replacing the vinylic double bond by a single bond, which is substituted by a radical -T-(oligomer<sup>1</sup>), wherein (oligomer<sup>1</sup>) independently is a radical of formula (3a) above and T is a direct bond or a radical of formula



T<sub>1</sub> is -O-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkylene which is unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy, or is -O-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkylene-NH-C(O)- or -O-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkylene-O-C(O)-NH-R<sub>13</sub>-NH-C(O)-, wherein R<sub>13</sub> independently has the meaning of R above;

T<sub>2</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylene; phenylene or benzylene;

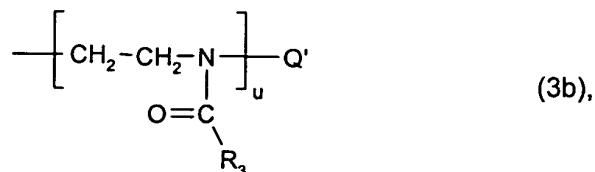
X<sub>3</sub> and X<sub>4</sub> are each independently of the other a bivalent group -O- or -NR<sub>2</sub>', wherein R<sub>2</sub>' is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl;

(alk<sup>\*\*</sup>) is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylene and (alk<sup>\*\*\*</sup>) is C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkylene, and

m and x are each independently of the other the number 0 or 1; and

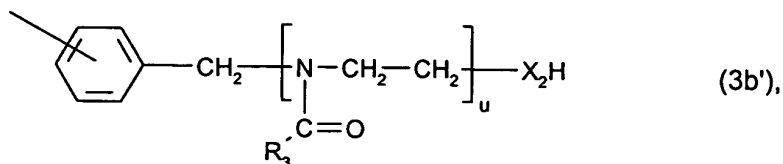
B<sub>1</sub>' independently has the meaning of B<sub>1</sub> or B; or

(ii) the radical of an oligomer of the formula



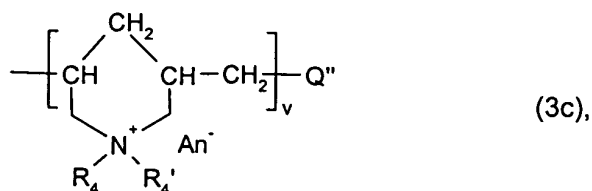
wherein R<sub>3</sub> is hydrogen or unsubstituted or hydroxy-substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl, u is an integer from 2 to 750 and Q' is a radical of a polymerization initiator; or

(iii) the radical of formula



wherein  $\text{X}_2$  independently has the meaning of X above, and  $\text{R}_3$  and  $u$  are as defined above, or

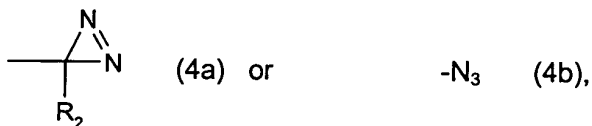
(iv) the radical of an oligomer of formula



wherein  $\text{R}_4$  and  $\text{R}_4'$  are each independently  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_4$ -alkyl,  $\text{An}^-$  is an anion,  $v$  is an integer from 2 to 750, and  $\text{Q}''$  is a monovalent group that is suitable to act as a polymerization chain-reaction terminator;

subject to the proviso that A is not a radical of formula (2b) if (oligomer) is a radical of formula (3b) or (3c).

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein Z is a group of formula



wherein  $\text{R}_2$  is fluorinated  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_6$ -alkyl.

3. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein Z is a group  $\begin{array}{c} \text{N} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \text{---} \text{C} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{CF}_3 \end{array}$ ,  $n$  is 0,

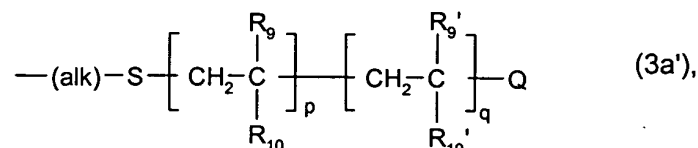
and A is a radical of formula (2a).

4. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein Z is a group  $\text{---} \text{N}_3$ ,  $n$  is 0 or 1, and A is a radical of formula (2b), (2d) or (2e).

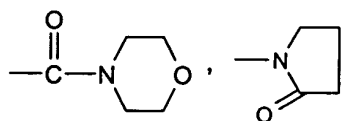
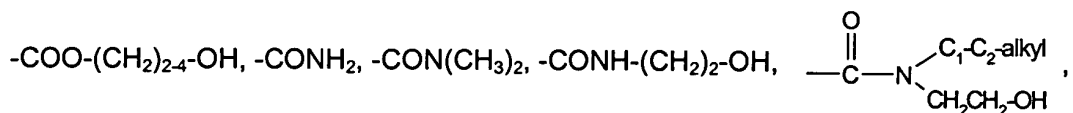
5. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein (oligomer) is a telomer radical of formula (3a).

6. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 5, wherein the hydrophilic substituent of the radicals B and B' is selected from the group consisting of a radical -COOY, a radical -CO-NY<sub>1</sub>Y<sub>2</sub>, and a heterocyclic radical, wherein Y is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-alkyl, substituted C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>-alkyl, which is substituted by hydroxy, amino or N,N-di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-alkylamino, or is a radical -C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylene-NH-C(O)-O-G, wherein the substituted C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>-alkyl is substituted by hydroxy, amino or N,N-di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-alkylamino, wherein -O-G is the radical of trehalose or a cyclodextrin fragment with a maximum of 8 sugar units;  
~~a radical -CO-NY<sub>1</sub>Y<sub>2</sub>, wherein Y<sub>1</sub> and Y<sub>2</sub> are each independently of the other hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-alkyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl which is substituted by hydroxy, or Y<sub>1</sub> and Y<sub>2</sub> together with the adjacent N-atom form a N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-alkylpiperazino or morpholino ring; and~~  
wherein the a heterocyclic radical is selected from the group consisting of N-pyrrolidonyl, 2-pyridinyl, or 4-pyridinyl, 2-methylpyridin-5-yl, 2-, 3- oder 4-hydroxypyridinyl, N-ε-caprolactamyl, N-imidazolyl, 2-methylimidazol-1-yl, N-morpholinyl and 4-N-methylpiperazin-1-yl.

7. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein (oligomer) is a a radical of formula



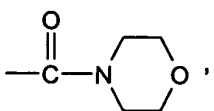
wherein (alk) is C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylene, R<sub>9</sub> and R<sub>9</sub>' are each independently of the other hydrogen or methyl, Q is a monovalent group that is suitable to act as a polymerization chain-reaction terminator, R<sub>10</sub> and R<sub>10</sub>' are each independently of the other -COO-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-alkyl,

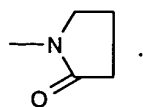


or -COO(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2-4</sub>-NHC(O)-O-G wherein -O-G is the radical

of trehalose or a cyclodextrin fragment with a maximum of 8 sugar units, and p and q are each independently of another an integer from 0 to 750, wherein the total of (p+q) is an integer from 2 to 750.

8. (Original) A compound according to claim 7, wherein p is an integer from 10 to 750, q

is 0, and R<sub>10</sub> is -COO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2-4</sub>-OH, -CONH<sub>2</sub>, -CON(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, ,

or .

9-14. (Canceled)